

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRASIL 05444 020218Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 MED-02 HEW-04 /038 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2529

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

JCS/WASHDC/DMA

JCS HQ WASHDC/DAJA-IA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5444

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR; KE, BR, MY

SUBJ: STATUS OF US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH UNITS

REF: STATE 126080

1. THE WALTER REED ARMY INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH'S US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH UNIT (USAMRU) IN BRAZIL HAS OPERATED HERE UNDER THE USG-GOB BILATERAL SCIENCE AGREEMENTS OF 1973 AND 1976.

2. PERSONNEL ARE REPORTED TO THE GOB AS ATTACHED TO THE USDAO OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES. WHILE USAMRU PERSONNEL HAVE THE SAME PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AS THE DAO, WE DOUBT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS HAS EVER SERIOUSLY QUESTIONED OR STUDIED THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE GROUP HERE.

3. WE SEE NO REASON AT THIS JUNCTURE TO SEEK ANY CHANGE IN STATUS FOR THE USAMRU OR RAISE THE TOPIC WITH THE GOB. THE GROUP HAS A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOB ENTITY (CNPQ) RESPONSIBLE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH, AND PERSONNEL BENEFIT FROM ESSENTIALLY THE SAME PRIVILEGES AS MISSION TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL. TO

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RAISE THE TOPIC MIGHT ONLY ENCOURAGE THE GOB TO SCRUTINIZE THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE USAMRU AND PERHAPS LEAD TO A LESS DESIRABLE STATUS.

JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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